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Rural District of Aysgarth

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

For the Year 1969

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AYSGARTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members of the Council:

	Chairman - Councillor Mrs. A.M. Mason.
	Vice-Chairman - Councillor J.R. Hopper.
Abbotside High	R. Balderston, Esq.
	W. Shay, Esq.
Abbotside Low	J.R. Hopper, Esq. (Vice-Chairman)
Askrigg	J.R. Abraham, Esq.
	J. Trotter, Esq.
Aysgarth	Dr. K. Coltman.
Bainbridge	J.W. Gregson, Esq.
	R.F. Kettlewell, Esq.
	C. Hodgson, Esq.
Bishopdale & Newbiggin	E. Drake, Esq.
West Burton	E.B.D. Johnson, Esq.
	J.D.C. Piper, Esq.
Carperby-cum-Thoresby	W.O. Alderson, Esq.
Hawes	C. Chapman, Esq.
	G. Dinsdale, Esq.
	Mrs. A.M. Mason, (Chairman)
	B.B. Allen, Esq.
	W. Metcalfe, Esq.
Thoralby	G.C.S. Bryant, Esq.
Thornton Rust	W.J.C. Mayne, Esq.

OFFICERS

Clerk of the Council	John H. Richards, F.I.M.T.A.
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. H. Diggles, MB.,Ch,B.D.P.H. Area Health Office, Wensleydale C.M. School, Leyburn. tel: Leyburn 2125
Public Health Inspector & Surveyor	Kenneth J. Jolley, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I. Test., Inst, P.C.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1969.

To:- The Chairman and Members of the Aysgarth Rural District Council.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Owing to the retirement of Dr. H. Diggles, I am submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1969. The report follows the lines of previous reports.

The Birth Rate as adjusted by the comparability factor was 11.9. compared to 16.3. for England and Wales. There were no infant deaths. The General Mortality rate (adjusted) was 13.4 compared with 11.9. for England and Wales. I have no comments on these figures.

Thirty four cases of infectious diseases were notified, 31 of these being measles. Immunisation against measles is now being offered to all children of school age who have not had the disease. It is hoped that this will reduce the number of cases of measles in future.

The water supply authority for the district is the Northallerton and the Dales Water Board. I am indebted to their Engineer for the following report:-

The Board's main efforts continue to be directed towards locating and developing suitable new sources of supply. This is necessary to make up for existing "dry weather" deficiencies, to meet the growing demand for water and to enable numerous small and isolated supplies to be replaced by more economic linked schemes.

Throughout the year, routine bacteriological samples were taken by the Board and examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

It was necessary to prohibit the use of hosepipes in September to reduce the demand for water during the Autumn. The new Fossdale source, service reservoir and distribution mains, were completed during the year and existing supplies were being connected to the scheme from September onwards. The scheme should obviate the dry weather shortages in Wensleydale between Hardrow and Askrigg.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

(H.R. Morrison)

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics

Area in acres	81,032
Population (Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid 1969)	3,150
Population (1931 census)	4,257
Population (1951 census)	3,607
Population (1961 census)	3,303
Number of inhabited houses (1951)	1,209
Number of inhabited houses (1969)	1,341
Rateable Value of District (April 1969)	£ 65,893
Product of penny rate	£ 249

(b) Vital Statistics (as supplied by Registrar General)

		MALES		FEMALES		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit	Illegit
Live Births	15	15	-	16	15	1
Still Births	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infant Deaths						
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 4 Weeks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 1 Week	-	-	-	-	-	-

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	1	1
Diabetes Melitus	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms.	-	2	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	2	-	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	1	-	1
Cerebrovasoular Disease.	3	8	11
Other Forms of Heart Disease.	2	5	7
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	-	3	3
Hypertensive Disease.	2	1	3
Other Complications of Pregnancy.	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease.	4	7	11
Pneumonia.	2	3	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema.	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1
All Other Accidents.	-	1	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries.	1	-	1
All Other External Causes.	1	-	1
	23	34	57

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the above Act which gives the Council power to remove to suitable premises, persons who are not able to devote to themselves and are not receiving from any other persons, adequate care and attention.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Details of staff are given at the beginning of the report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The North Riding of Yorkshire County Council supply ambulance services from their station at Bainbridge.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Local Hospital accommodation is provided in Northallerton by the Northallerton Hospital Management Committee of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. In addition, a number of residents receive both in-patient and out-patient treatment at Lancaster and Bradford hospitals.

NURSING IN THE HOMES.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Mid-Wifery service is under the general direction of the County Council, with the day-to-day administration being dealt with by the Area Medical Officer. Three district/nurse/midwives operate in the area.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This is provided by the North Riding of Yorkshire County Council, the day-to-day administration being dealt with by the Area Medical Officer.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLIES

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SECTION E

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Details of this work and of meat inspection are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SECTION F

PREVALANCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

	Males	Females	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	1	2
Measles	16	15	31
Whooping Cough	-	1	1

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION

INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A total of 1196 visits and inspections were made during the year.

	Inspections	Informal Notices	Complied With	Statutory Notices	Complied With
Council Work	356	-	-	-	-
Housing	97	7	7	-	-
Public Health Acts	132	6	5	-	-
Building Regulations	220	-	-	-	-
Improvement Grants	145	-	-	-	-
Slaughter Houses (for the purpose of meat inspection)	101	-	-	-	-
Water Supply	23	-	-	-	-
Food Premises	28	-	-	-	-
Petroleum Regulations	8	-	-	-	-
Rodent Control	22	-	-	-	-
Factories Act	6	-	-	-	-
Caravans	5	-	-	-	-
Planning	33	-	-	-	-
Refuse Collection	20	-	-	-	-

Refuse Collection & Disposal

The Council maintained a seven day interval refuse collection service from the rear of premises over the greater part of the District. Bad weather and holidays caused a little dislocation of collection days.

The Council's three disposal tips leave much to be desired by way of control as the amount of time that can be spent on the tips is limited and inadequate.

Tipping space at Hawes and Askrigg remains a major problem. I believe that an area such as this, where it is impossible to find space which satisfies the planners and is otherwise suitable, calls for special measures and refuse may have to be taken out of the Dale for disposal even if this means longer hauls than would otherwise be acceptable.

Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies.

18 samples of water were examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, 16 were reported s tisfactory. No samples were submitted for chemical examination.

Total Number of dwellings in the Area	1341
Total Number of dwellings supplied from Council Mains.	1154
Percentage of dwellings supplied from Council Mains.	86%

Northallerton and The Dales Water Board.

The Water Board continued to chlorinate some of the sources of supply, the remainder give bad bacteriological samples from time to time. Part of the unsatisfactory samples came from Carperby and this supply was chlorinated later in the year.

No major shortages of water occurred during the year and the quality of the water varied with the amount of rainfall as in previous years.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

There are 68 premises in the district which come within the scope of the above Regulations, they are as follows:-

Cafes	8	School Canteens	5
Public Houses	16	Fish & Chip Shops	1
Confectioners	5	Fishmongers	2
Grocers	2	Cheese Factory	1
Butchers	6	Hotels	3

It will be seen from the table of inspections that 28 visits were made to this type of premises, more visits should be made to these premises.

Meat Inspection.

The total number of animals inspected was 398 and it was necessary to make 101 visits for this purpose.

The following table gives details of the food animals killed and the amount found to be unfit.

	Bullocks	Heifers	Total cattle (excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	39	42	81	-	-	234	83
Number inspected	39	42	81	-	-	234	83
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSOS AND CISTICERCI							
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-	-	12%
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	8	6	14	-	-	12	3
Percentage	20.5%	14.3%	17%	-	-	5.0%	6.9%
Total Percentage	20.5%	14.3%	17%	-	-	5.0%	18.9%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY							
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CYSTERCERCOSIS							
Whole carcase refridgerated	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

All the animals were killed in one private slaughterhouse. The animals were all young and in prime condition. The organs condemned were affected by parasitic conditions which had no effect upon the rest of the carcase.

Hygiene in the slaughterhouse continued to be of a very high standard and the proprietor continued to observe his obligation to notify slaughter.

Inspection of meat in my absence is carried out by Mr. Seeds of Leyburn with whom I have a reciprocal arrangement.

SEWERAGE

Table showing houses connected to Sewers and Water Mains in the Various Parishes.

Parish:	Total Properties	To Sewer	Otherwise	Septic Tanks	Water Mains
Abbotside High	84	35	13	36	54
Abbotside Low	44	1	5	38	32
Askrigg L.A.	131	130	-	1	131
Askrigg N.L.A.	39	1	1	37	31
Aysgarth L.A.	58	58	-	-	58
Aysgarth N.L.A.	26	5	2	19	26
Bainbridge L.A.	87	86	1	-	31
Bainbridge N.L.A.	84	18	9	57	61
Bishopdale	12	-	2	10	-
Burton-cum-Walden L.A.	92	92	-	-	92
Burton-cum-Walden N.L.A.	31	-	4	27	6
Hawes L.A.	370	363	-	6	368
Hawes N.L.A.	93	19	15	59	21
Newbiggin	24	-	2	22	23
Thoralby L.A.	46	40	-	6	46
Thoralby N.L.A.	9	-	5	4	-
Thornton Rust	41	-	1	40	39
Carperby-cum-Thoresby L.A.	63	63	-	-	63
Carperby-cum-Thoresby N.L.A.	13	-	-	13	5
Total:	1347	911	60	375	1142

A total of 81 non-domestic properties are connected to Council Sewers.

The Council continued to make charges for the reception into their sewers of farm effluent and no revision of the charge was made.

The Hawes and Gayle sewage disposal works are grossly over-loaded and continue to show results which are most unsatisfactory in spite of the fact that only a small part of the total flow is treated. The other sewage works continued to produce effluents which complied with the terms of the River Authority's consent.

HOUSING

The Housing Rent and Repairs Act, 1954, Section 1. (Housing Proposals)

The number of unfit houses in the District which are regarded as being unfit and incapable of being made fit was 52 at the beginning of the year, this was reduced to 47 during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958 and the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and 1969

The Council offered 12 discretionery grants amounting to £9,422, 6 of these grants were in respect of conversions which will provide 10 dwellings. 18 standard grants were offered, exactly the same number as last year, the possible maximum of £3,326 included six to the higher limit. A total of £2,811 was paid for completed works during the year.

New Council Houses

The Council have not seen fit to alter the decision to build no more houses which was made last year.

Housing Survey

The following table shows the classification of the houses inspected in the Rural Housing Survey.

	Not Inspected	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 5
Abbotside High	8	3	43	24	6
Abbotside Low	4	14	14	8	5
Askrigg	5	34	76	52	4
Aysgarth	2	29	38	12	4
Bainbridge	5	48	90	24	4
Bishopdale	4	-	7	1	-
Burton-cum-Walden	25	27	54	25	1
Carperby-cum-Thoresby	2	23	34	17	-
Hawes	22	136	195	78	21
Newbiggin	-	2	16	5	1
Thoralby	7	16	26	6	1
Thornton Rust	-	12	26	3	-
Total: 1969	84	344	619	255	47
Totals for 1968	84	330	595	274	52

The above table shows a reduction of 24 in the number of unfit houses, of this number 5 were in Category 5 that is to say they were regarded as being incapable of being made fit at a reasonable expense.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepai

OVERCROWDING

No accurate figures are available as the overcrowding survey done many years ago has not been brought up-to-date.

HOUSING AND NEW BUILDINGS
Conversions by Private Enterprise & New Houses.

The table below gives details of houses under construction and those completed since 1945 in various parishes.

Parish:	Completed:	Under Construction:
Bainbridge	4	Nil
Hawes	17	3
Askrigg	9	Nil
Thornton Rust	5	Nil
Aysgarth	7	Nil
Low Abbotside	8	Nil
West Burton	4	1
Thoralby	3	Nil
Carperby	1	Nil
Total:	58	4

The four dwellings shown as being Under Construction were all conversions of buildings into houses.

HOUSES BUILT BY AYSGARTH R.D.C.

Parish:	To 31/12/69.	Under Construction:
Hawes	60	Nil
Bainbridge	20	-
Askrigg	10	-
Carperby	6	-
Aysgarth	4	-
Thoralby	2	-
West Burton	2	-
Total:	104	Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, BUILDING REGULATIONS

115 plans were considered during the year. Details are shown in the following table 220 visits were made, an average of two visits per deposited plan.

Parish:	New Houses	Alterations to Dwellings	Garages & Sheds	Cow-Sheds & Dairies & Piggeries	Alterations to buildings other than dwellings	Division of dwelling houses & conversions to same	Total
Hawes	24	12	7	2	4	-	49
Bainbridge	-	5	1	1	2	-	9
Askrigg	6	1	6	1	2	-	16
Carperby	-	2	2	-	-	-	4
Aysgarth	-	1	3	1	3	1	9
High Abbotside	-	2	1	1	-	1	5
Low Abbotside	-	4	1	1	-	-	6
Thornton Rust	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
West Burton	-	5	1	2	1	1	10
Thoralby	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
Newbiggin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bishopdale	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Total:	30	33	24	13	12	3	115

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The conveniences have been maintained to a reasonable standard and as usual have received attention from a few people whose particular delight is the destruction or defacement of public conveniences.

RODENT CONTROL

26 visits were made during the year to Council and other properties. One lady who complained of mice like creatures around her rockery had caught, in spring traps, 201 mice in the course of one year.

The Council's tips and other premises receive attention regularly and the Council continued to issue warfarin based rat and mouse poison to the public free of charge.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1) Factoriew in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	6	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	-	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total:	19	6	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.I.).....	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary convenience (S.7) ..... (a)	-	-	-	-	-
Insufficient (b)	-	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective (c) Not seperate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not included offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	-	-	-	-	-

There are no outworkers in the Rural District.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955, MILK RETAILERS

I am grateful to the County Health Inspector for the following information.

No. of Retailers	22
No. of samples taken	98
No. passed Methylene Blue Test	93
No. failed " " "	4
No. void	1
No. negative to Milk Ring Test	84
No. positive " " " "	14
No. positive on Brucella Abortus Test	Nil
No. negative " " " "	Nil
No. positive on Tubercle Bacilli Biological Test	Nil
No. negative " " " Biological Test	Nil

Of the 14 Milk Ring Test positive 9 samples were positive on culture.

In addition to the above, 4 samples were taken from the Old Peoples Home, Bainbridge, of these 1 failed the Methylene Blue test, and 3 passed, 4 were negative to the Milk Ring Test and none were positive.

All the milk retailed in the Rural District is raw or untreated milk.

All samples which failed the statutory tests were resampled at the earliest possible time and cleared. Samples which gave a positive reaction to the Milk Ring Test were followed-up by sampling from individual animals and producers were requested to segregate such animals and send the infected milk for pasteurisation or other statutory form of heat treatment. This action was done with the co-operation of the producers informally and no statutory action was necessary during the year.